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ABSTRACT

The Texas College and University System Coordinating Board is responsible for statewide planning and policies for Texas higher education. Its major areas of responsibility include financial planning, program development, services to students, and campus planning. The 1976 annual report details the Board's activities for the year. Program development activities include new programs and administrative changes; role-and-scope study; off-campus instruction; consumer protection against substandard institutions; review of policy paper on academic freedom; medical education; community service and continuing education; and community/junior college development. Financial planning for the year involved a call for fiscal restraints; discussion of the Texas Formula System; higher education appropriations for 1975-77; tuition and fees; faculty salaries; staff personnel administration; and research funds. Student services detailed include student loan programs; various grant programs; and residency determination. Campus planning and physical facilities development included approval of construction projects and real property acquisition; campus master planning; repair and rehabilitation; facilities inventory; student housing survey; junior college resource development; and federal program administration. (JMF)

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Annual Report

Coordinating Board

Texas College and University System

Coordinating Board

TEXAS COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

P. O. BOX 12788, CAPITOL STATION

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

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HARRY PROVENCE

Vice-Chairman
NEWTON GRESHAM

JACK ARTHUR

TONY BONILLA

G. V. BRINDLEY, JR., M.D.

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RALPH SPENCE

R. PAUL TEAGUE, SR.

WAYNE E. THOMAS

M. HARVEY WEIL

SAM D. YOUNG, JR.

August 31, 1976

The Honorable Dolph Briscoe, Governor of Texas
The Honorable William Hobby, Lt. Governor of Texas
The Honorable William Clayton, Speaker of the
House of Representatives
Members of the 64th Legislature, State of Texas

Dear Governor Briscoe, Lt. Governor Hobby, Speaker Clayton, and Members of the Legislature:

I am pleased to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System for the Fiscal Year ended August 31, 1976.

In response to legislative and executive directives the Board this year has concentrated its efforts on finding ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Texas higher education. Our colleges and universities are actively assisting the Board in this effort.

As this year ends, studies are nearing completion on redefining the role and scope of each Texas university, projecting program and building needs for the next several years in light of those revised roles, and identifying new organizational and management procedures which might improve accountability and effectiveness of our higher education system. As these studies are completed this fall, the Coordinating Board will report to the members of the 65th Legislature and to the Governor any recommendations it may have in regard to ensuring quality and economy of Texas college education. The Board also will publish an Annual Report supplement containing statistical information on all colleges and universities as soon as the compilation of that data is complete.

Members of the Coordinating Board and its staff appreciate the continued support and concern of the Executive and Legislative branches for ensuring that all Texans have access to quality postsecondary educational opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Provence

Harry Provence
Chairman

THE COORDINATING BOARD

The Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System is a statutory, 18-member board responsible for statewide planning and policies for Texas higher education. Its major areas of responsibility include financial planning, program development, services to students, and campus planning.

The Texas Legislature created the Board in 1965 and has added to its statutory responsibilities since that time. Legislation enacted by the 64th Legislature in 1975 strengthened the powers of the Board, particularly in the area of regulation of off-campus activities, approval/disapproval of campus construction, and control over efforts to operate fraudulent or substandard degree programs in Texas.

Gov. Dolph Briscoe expanded the Board's planning responsibilities in July, 1976 when he designated it as the State Postsecondary Education Commission (1202 Commission).

The Board is responsible for approval/disapproval of all degree programs in Texas public colleges and universities. It also is to recommend the establishment, discontinuance, or uniting of public institutions. The Board authorizes the creation of public junior college districts and adopts standards for their operation and develops and recommends formulas to the Governor and Legislative Budget Board for their use in determining legislative appropriations for equitable financing of public higher education. The Board supervises planning, utilization, evaluation and reporting of academic development in Texas colleges and universities and recommends policies for efficient use of construction funds and orderly development of physical plants. In the area of services to students, the Board administers the state's college student loan program and its student grant programs.

The Coordinating Board held four regular quarterly meetings in Austin in October, 1975, and January, April, and July, 1976. The Board also met in three special called sessions in September, 1975, and December and February, 1976.

COORDINATING BOARD, TEXAS COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Harry Provence, Chairman, Waco (1981)

Newton Gresham, Vice Chairman, Houston (1977)

Jack Arthur
Stephenville (1977)

Tony Bonilla
Corpus Christi (1979)

Dr. G. V. Brindley, Jr.
Temple (1979)

O. H. Elliott*
Austin (1979)

John W. Fainter, Jr.
Houston (1981)

Marshall Formby
Plainview (1977)

Mrs. Jess T. (Betty Jo) Hay
Dallas (1979)

Harold D. Herndon
San Antonio (1979)

Fred H. Moore
Austin (1979)

L. F. Peterson
Fort Worth (1981)

Richard S. Slocomb
Galena Park (1977)

Ralph Spence
Tyler (1981)

R. Paul Teague, Sr.
Texas City (1981)

Wayne E. Thomas
Hereford (1977)

M. Harvey Weil
Corpus Christi (1977)

Sam D. Young, Jr.
El Paso (1981)

*O. H. Elliott submitted his resignation, effective July 24, 1976.

Note: Six-year terms of all Coordinating Board members expire on September 1 of years indicated.

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Kenneth H. Ashworth, Commissioner of Higher Education

William A. Webb, Head
Division of Financial Planning

Gordon Flack, Head
Division of Campus Planning and Facilities Development

Mack C. Adams, Head
Division of Student Services

David T. Kelly, Head
Division of Program Development

James McWhorter, Head
Division of Administration

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OVERVIEW

Texas higher education took significant steps in 1975-76 toward achieving greater accountability. The Texas Legislature in 1975 strengthened Coordinating Board mandates to place controls on off-campus program operations and campus construction. The need for such measures was magnified by an inflationary economy, soaring college operating costs and growing numbers of college-going Texans. In Fall 1975, Texas colleges and universities recorded the largest one-year statewide enrollment increase in more than a decade. Tax dollars allocated to support Texas public higher education also rose dramatically -- some 51 percent over the previous biennium. With similar budget increases occurring in many areas of state government, top state officials issued a united appeal for fiscal restraint on the part of all state agencies. Meanwhile, the select legislator-citizen Joint Advisory Committee on Government Operations was named to study ways to effect more economy and efficiency in state government.

The Coordinating Board concentrated its efforts in 1975-76 toward:

--Slowing expansion of higher education;

--Reevaluating role and scope of all Texas universities;

--Eliminating duplication in off-campus activities;

--Strengthening controls on college construction;

--Protecting educational consumers against substandard college operations;

--Restudy of formulas for financing higher education; and

--Administering loan and grant programs for Texas students.

Board Designated 1202 Commission

Gov. Dolph Briscoe in July, 1976, designated the Coordinating Board as the State Postsecondary Education Commission (1202 Commission) to receive and administer planning funds available to Texas under provisions of the Federal Education Amendments of 1972.

Such planning is to help utilize more effectively all public and private postsecondary education resources in the state, with particular focus on strengthening and expanding occupational education programs.

Improving the match between educational programs and employment opportunities will be a major goal of the Board's efforts. The planning efforts will emphasize maintenance of employment information and ways to make that information available to students to help plan their college programs.

Program Expansion Halted

Texas colleges and universities joined the Coordinating Board in a cooperative deferment of most proposed new degree programs and administrative changes in 1975-76. The deferrals were made in the interest of economy and to ensure effective use of available educational resources.

During a March, 1976, conference launching the state budgeting process for the 1977-79 biennium, Gov. Dolph Briscoe, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and House Speaker Bill Clayton called for state agencies to limit spending to current levels, except for particularly high priority programs.

Coordinating Board members cited two immediate objectives in asking institutions to postpone new program proposals for a year. A more

accurate assessment of state funding available for higher education in the succeeding biennium would be available. The deferral also will enable the Board to complete its extensive review of the role and scope of each senior institution. The comprehensive role and scope project includes review not only of degrees and programs but of all college operations. It also involves five-year institutional projections of enrollments and program changes.

Board Tightens Controls on College Construction, Off-Campus Activities

In response to recommendations from Gov. Briscoe, the 64th Legislature broadened Coordinating Board responsibilities for coordination of college construction and programs. The Board's efforts during the year were focused on implementation of those new statutory duties.

College Construction Criteria

Legislation enacted by the 64th Legislature (SB 706) was designed to provide more equitable use of state funds for construction. It gave the Board authority to approve all major college construction projects, regardless of funding source or proposed use, except those specifically authorized by the Legislature.

The Board in October adopted revisions to its rules under which institutions may obtain approval for construction and major building rehabilitation. The regulations require college construction projects to conform with institutional role and scope statements, long-range, comprehensive campus master plans, space utilization standards and laws regarding accessibility for the handicapped.

A Board facilities advisory committee recommended the new criteria for construction approvals. The committee also proposed that certain financial aspects and implications -- such as cost per square foot, long-range operating costs and institutional indebtedness -- be included in Board consideration of college construction requests.

Deferring action on the latter recommendation, the Coordinating Board requested an Attorney General's opinion regarding the Board's statutory authority to weigh such financial considerations.

In January 1976, Atty. Gen. John Hill ruled that the Board does not have the authority to regulate the expenditure of construction funds or to consider costs as a factor in approval/disapproval of college construction proposals. Hill pointed out, however, that Board promulgation of space utilization standards and determination of an institution's role and scope will indirectly affect the amount of funds expended for construction and rehabilitation of buildings.

During the closing days of the 64th Legislature, more than 130 college construction projects were attached as riders to the General Appropriations bill for the 1975-77 biennium.

In June 1975, Gov. Briscoe vetoed those construction riders. The Governor said the riders were "contrary to the spirit and letter of the Coordinating Board bill (SB 706)," and were inserted in the appropriations process without notice, or justifications for the projects. He had been petitioned by 81 members of the House to veto the riders.

However, the Texas Supreme Court ruled in January 1976 that Gov. Briscoe had exceeded his constitutional authority in vetoing the riders.

The ruling concluded that the riders did constitute prior approval of the Legislature, thus exempting the projects from Coordinating Board approval.

The Governor called the decision a "serious setback" in the attempt to bring higher education costs under control. He said he would pursue "this objective even more vigorously in the future."

Off-Campus Regulations

Reflecting concerns regarding proliferation in the number of off-campus course offerings by public colleges, the Legislature extended Board duties to include approval/disapproval of off-campus courses offered by senior colleges. New legislation also clarified existing statutes requiring junior colleges to receive prior and continuing Board approval for out-of-district operations.

In April the Board adopted new rules for approving all off-campus instruction. The new regulations designate procedures for approval of (1) off-campus upper-level and graduate courses offered by senior institutions and (2) lower division (freshman-sophomore) off-campus course offerings of junior and senior colleges.

The rules establish criteria to determine need for off-campus courses and standards for selection of which institutions should conduct the needed courses. Through area conferences and regional council meetings, all Texas colleges and universities are afforded opportunities to participate in the planning and approval process for off-campus programs.

Rules approved for off-campus instruction also apply to appropriate adult and continuing education activities of Texas public colleges and to courses offered in Texas by out-of-state public institutions. Coordination of instruction in these areas is included in the Board's expanded responsibilities.

Safeguards Against Substandard Institutions

The Board also adopted rules to implement a new Texas law (HB 1538, 64th Legislature) designed to protect consumers from institutions offering courses or awarding degrees of questionable or substandard quality. Private institutions not accredited by recognized agencies must now obtain Coordinating Board certification before awarding degrees or enrolling students for courses leading to degrees.

Record Appropriation Supports 100 Institutional Units

The 64th Legislature appropriated a record $2.3 billion from all funds to support all agencies of postsecondary education in the 1975-77 biennium -- an increase of $772.4 million or 51.3 percent above the previous biennium. The Texas higher education budget for Fiscal 1976 was $1.1 billion.

State funding for higher education provides support for more than 100 component institutional units. Comprising the Texas system of public higher education in 1975-76 were 23 public senior colleges and universities, five upper-level universities, three upper-level centers, two upper-level extension centers, two lower-division centers, 47 public community junior college districts operating on 54 campuses, one public

technical institute with four campuses, six public medical schools, two public dental schools, other allied health and nursing units and a public Maritime Academy.

The state's private sector of higher education included 37 senior colleges and universities, one free-standing law school, seven junior colleges, one medical school, one dental school and two medically-related units.

Formulas Designated for 1977-79 Biennium

In January 1976 the Coordinating Board designated 14 formulas for financing Texas public higher education in Fiscal Years 1978 and 1979. The new formulas include, where applicable, an annual 7.6 percent inflation factor over Fiscal 1977 formula rates.

The Legislature requested the Coordinating Board to develop formulas for use in funding the new upper-level institutions. In response to the request, certain formulas specify varying funding rules for differing enrollment levels. The modified formulas are expected to respond to needs of low enrollment general academic institutions, including the upper-level universities.

The Board adopted formulas in two new areas -- Physical Plant General Services and Community Services and Continuing Education -- for the next biennium.

Board formulas will be used by the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board in making recommendations to the 65th Legislature regarding appropriations for higher education. Institutions use the formulas in preparing budget requests.

Enrollment Increases Nearly 17 Percent

Statewide enrollment at Texas colleges and universities climbed to an all-time high of 675,231 in Fall 1975. The headcount reflected an increase of 96,817 students over the preceding fall, for a one-year growth rate of 16.74 percent. Far above enrollment projections, the gain marked the first time in 10 years that Texas institutions had exceeded a 10 percent enrollment growth. It also exceeded the year's national enrollment growth rate of 8.9 percent.

Public community colleges recorded the largest one-year enrollment increase -- 30.27 percent. One new public community college began operation during the year -- the Northwest Campus of the Tarrant County Junior College District.

Headcount at public senior institutions increased 10.2 percent above Fall 1974. The gain was attributed in part to the admission of junior and senior students for the first time at The University of Texas at Dallas and The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Independent senior and junior colleges registered one-year increases of 2.8 and 2.31 percent, respectively.

The following table shows the distribution of student enrollments among the various types of Texas colleges and universities for Fall 1974 and Fall 1975, including the percent of change.

SUMMARY OF HEADCOUNT ENROLLMENT
Texas Institutions of Higher Education
Fall 1974 and Fall 1975

Type Institution	Fall 1974 Enrollment	Fall 1975 Enrollment	Percent Of Change
Public Senior Colleges and Universities	278,913	307,552	+10.20%
Public Community Colleges	214,123	278,931	+30.27
Semester Length	(171,957)	(215,148)	(+25.12)
Other than Semester Length	(42,166)	(63,783)	(+51.27)
Public Technical Institutes	5,466	6,128	+12.11
Independent Senior Colleges and Universities	70,783	72,765	+ 2.80
Independent Junior Colleges	2,291	2,344	+ 2.31
Medical, Dental and Allied Health Units	6,838	7,711	+12.77
Public Institutions	(5,194)	(6,156)	(+18.52)
Independent Institutions	(1,644)	(1,555)	(- 5.41)
TOTAL -- All Institutions	578,414	675,231	+ 16.74

Hinson-Hazlewood Bonds Sold; New Grant Program Implemented

The Coordinating Board in February 1976 sold $18 million State of Texas College Loan Bonds at an effective interest rate of 5.4002 percent. The bond sale will enable the Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program to meet the anticipated $25 million loan needs of some 24,000 students during 1976-77.

Through its Division of Student Services, the Coordinating Board also assisted institutions with implementation of the new Texas Public Educational Grants (TPEG) Program. Enacted by the 64th Legislature, TPEG became effective in September 1975. It authorizes public colleges to set aside specified portions of hourly tuition charges to be used for scholarships.

The institutions may award the funds directly to its needy students. The program also authorizes each institution to transfer the funds to the Coordinating Board to be matched with funds available through other grant programs, such as the federally funded State Student Incentive Grants Program. Thus, participating institutions are able, in many instances, to double the amount of grant funds available for needy students on their own campuses.

Some $1.1 million was made available to Texas through the State Student Incentive Grants Program in 1975-76. As state administrator for the program, the Coordinating Board awarded grants to students at more than 50 public and some 40 independent colleges and universities.

Liaison With Independent Higher Education Maintained

Since its establishment in 1965, the Coordinating Board has maintained a close liaison with the independent sector of Texas higher education. Maintenance of the relationship has been of mutual benefit.

Private colleges and universities provide the Board with important data regarding enrollments, degree offerings, facilities inventories and other information. Such data on the resources of the private sector is invaluable to the Board in its statewide planning for the public sector of higher education.

TEG Program

The Coordinating Board administers a Tuition Equalization Grants (TEG) Program for needy students at accredited private institutions. The 64th Legislature appropriated $16.5 million to fund the TEG program

during the 1975-77 biennium, an increase of $4 million over the preceding biennium. Of the total TEG biennial appropriation, some $1.5 million was allocated as matching funding for the federal State Student Incentive Grants (SSIG) Program. State financial support of the TEG program enabled Texas to qualify for participation in the matching SSIG program when federal funding for the program was initially appropriated in 1974-75.

Contracts for Medical, Dental Education

The Board also administers state contracts with private medical and dental institutions for the education of Texas resident students. Appropriations from the Legislature to the Coordinating Board for the medical-dental contracts during the 1975-77 biennium totaled $32.3 million. Of that amount, $19.5 million was for contracts with Baylor College of Medicine and $12.8 million for contracts with Baylor College of Dentistry.

In July 1975 the Board approved contracts with both institutions for Fiscal 1976. The contract with Baylor College of Medicine provided $9,736,538 for the instruction of no fewer than 419 students, based on an allowable per student rate of $22,382. The contract with Baylor College of Dentistry for $6,382,552 was for the education of no fewer than 440 students, at a per student rate of $14,105.

Enabling legislation for the contracts, enacted by the 61st Legislature in 1969, stipulates how the amount to be paid for each student is determined. It is based on the annual state tax support per undergraduate medical or dental student in public medical or dental schools.

Also administered by the Coordinating Board are annual contracts with the Texas System of Natural Laboratories, Inc., to coordinate a

statewide system of ecology laboratories. From a biennial appropriation of $92,000, the Board approved a Fiscal 1976 contract of $46,000 for the laboratory services.

Governor Names Appointees to Coordinating Board

Effective Sept. 1, 1975, Gov. Dolph Briscoe named three new members and reappointed three others to six-year terms on the Coordinating Board. The new members are John W. Fainter, Jr., of Sugar Land, L. F. "Pete" Peterson of Fort Worth, and Ralph Spence of Tyler. They replaced Robert W. Baker of Houston, Dr. James P. Hollers of San Antonio, and Watson Wise of Tyler. Reappointed were Chairman Harry Provence of Waco, Sam D. Young, Jr., of El Paso and Paul Teague of Texas City.

Ashworth Succeeds Reed as Commissioner

The resignation of Dr. Bevington Reed as Texas Commissioner of Higher Education, effective Jan. 31, 1976, was accepted "with deepest regret" by the Coordinating Board at its December meeting. Dr. Reed announced plans for early retirement, citing more than 40 years as a professional educator. He had served as the chief executive of the Board's staff since 1968.

On Feb. 25, the Board unanimously elected Dr. Kenneth H. Ashworth to succeed Dr. Reed, effective March 22. Ashworth had served as executive vice president of The University of Texas at San Antonio since 1973. He was vice chancellor for academic affairs for The University of Texas System from 1970 to 1973. A former member of the Board's staff, he served as Assistant Commissioner for Federal Programs and Facilities Planning from 1966 to 1969.

Dr. William A. Webb, head of the Board's Division of Financial Planning, served as Acting Commissioner during the interim period.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT IN TEXAS COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The Coordinating Board in 1975-76 focused efforts on comprehensive reassessment of the role and scope of Texas colleges and universities, their enrollments and programs, and their off-campus activities.

Statutory mandates to the Coordinating Board include responsibilities to prescribe the role and scope for each public institution, to approve or disapprove all degree and certificate programs, new departments or schools, and off-campus credit course offerings.

New Programs and Administrative Changes

There were few new degree programs or administrative changes approved by the Coordinating Board for Texas colleges and universities during 1975-76. Institutions joined the Board in a cooperative deferment of most such proposals until the 1976-77 academic year.

Coordinating Board members cited several reasons in calling for postponed consideration of expanded degree offerings. They pointed out that Gov. Briscoe, Lt. Gov. Hobby and House Speaker Clayton had issued a joint appeal for all state agencies to limit spending requests for the 1977-79 biennium to current biennium levels, except for especially high priority programs.

Board members also emphasized that the deferrals would enable the Board to complete its comprehensive review of the role and scope of each senior institution and to make a more accurate determination of the level of funding which will be available for higher education in the next biennium. The Board's Program Development Committee, in recommending the deferrals, had expressed concern as to whether sufficient funds

would be available both to support existing programs at a high level of quality and to support the cost of new ones. The committee also recommended further study and evaluation of proposed high-cost graduate programs in areas where degree holders exceed employment opportunities.

New degree programs and administrative changes are customarily reviewed semiannually by the Board in October and April. In light of the Board's position, all program requests were deferred at the October 1975 meeting. Only those programs or changes which involved little or no additional cost to the state were approved in April 1976. Institutions voluntarily deferred 79 proposals -- more than three-fourths of those originally submitted for consideration in April. As a result, the Board approved only two doctoral degree programs, four master's degrees and four administrative changes during 1975-76.

Role and Scope Study

One of the original charges to the Coordinating Board in 1965 was to "prescribe the role and scope for each public institution of higher education in Texas...." Institutional roles were studied and approved by the Board as part of its statewide plan adopted in 1968. Since that time, modifications in program offerings and administrative structures and the establishment of new institutions have created a need to update role and scope statements.

The Coordinating Board in July 1975 directed the staff to begin the restudy. Staff members have visited campuses, and institutional staff have worked diligently in providing information about their institutions. Work has continued toward the development of current role and scope.

statements for each institution. Another anticipated outcome of the study is completion of an institutional profile for each university, to be updated from time to time, and to be used in the work of the staff and the Board in consideration of requests for approvals of programs and other changes.

Off-Campus Instruction

Senate Bill 706 extended the authority of the Coordinating Board with regard to off-campus classes. "No off-campus courses for credit may be offered by any public college or university without specific prior approval of the board. The board shall establish regulations for the coordination of credit and noncredit activities of adult and continuing education by public colleges and universities." [Section 61.051(j), Texas Education Code, 1975]

The 64th Legislature, through passage of HB 2061, also clarified statutes enacted in 1971 requiring community colleges to obtain Coordinating Board approval for out-of-district courses and other off-campus operations.

In compliance with the new laws, the Board in October 1975 adopted rules and procedures for the coordination of all off-campus instruction. Revisions to those regulations were subsequently approved by the Board at its April 1976 meeting.

After approving more than 1,600 off-campus course offerings by public senior institutions for Spring 1976, Board members in December expressed concerns regarding the need, quality and cost of so many off-campus courses. They recommended that criteria for such courses be tightened.

Off-Campus Course Criteria Strengthened

In January the Board approved amendments designed to clarify and strengthen the original regulations. The amendments, adopted as emergency rules and proposed permanent rules, established guidelines to determine the need for off-campus courses. They also provided standards for the selection of appropriate institutions to conduct needed courses.

The Board conducted a public hearing in March on the amendments. In response to recommendations by college representatives at the hearing and further Board study, the rules were modified in April to place the off-campus planning, review and approval process on an annual, rather than a semester, basis. Minimum average class size requirements for undergraduate courses were reduced from 20 to an average of 15. Provisions pertaining to quality controls for off-campus faculty were revised to require institutional certification that off-campus faculty meet the same criteria as on-campus faculty. Criteria for selection of institution to conduct off-campus courses generally favor the nearest institution. However, the rules provide exceptions which would enable more distant institutions to obtain approval for requested courses which local institutions cannot or will not provide.

The regulations define the two types of off-campus instruction -- extension and resident courses. The principal distinction between the two is that extension courses are self-supporting, while resident courses receive state funding at levels provided for on-campus instruction.

Separate Procedures Established for Upper Division and Graduate Offerings

Senior institutions proposing off-campus upper-level and graduate

programs are required to present their annual proposal for off-campus, upper division and graduate courses for discussion at area conferences, affording college representatives the opportunity to resolve institutional conflicts. Following the conferences, the Commissioner approves or disapproves each proposal. Institutions wishing to appeal a ruling of the Commissioner may request a hearing before the Board.

Rules for approval of lower division off-campus instruction by junior and senior institutions parallel procedures followed for several years by community junior colleges in obtaining Board endorsement for out-of-district course offerings. The eight regional community college councils have been expanded to include all public universities within the respective geographic boundaries. The councils are renamed Regional Higher Education Councils. Junior and senior institutions wishing to offer off-campus lower division courses must submit such requests through the regional councils. Each council reviews proposals and formulates a plan for out-of-district and off-campus offerings within its region which includes recommendations to the Coordinating Board on course approvals/disapprovals.

The rules also apply to approval for credit courses offered in Texas by out-of-state public institutions -- an additional responsibility delegated to the Board through passage of HB 1379, 64th Legislature.

The Board will consider later appropriate procedures for the approval of adult and continuing education activities of Texas public colleges.

Consumer Protection Against Substandard Institutions

The Coordinating Board during Fiscal 1976 approved seven and denied three applications from private postsecondary institutions for certificates of authority to grant degrees in Texas. An additional 13 institutions were being evaluated for certification.

Legislation enacted by the 64th Legislature (HB 1538) directs the Board to approve or disapprove certification for the schools. Purpose of the new law is to protect consumers of higher education in Texas from the operation of fraudulent or substandard degree programs. The statute applies only to those private colleges and universities which are not accredited by recognized regional accrediting agencies.

Board implementation of its new mandate began immediately after enactment of the statute in 1975. Working with an advisory council of college presidents from seven accredited private Texas institutions, the Board in October 1975 adopted standards and procedures for the approval process. Faculty members from other accredited colleges serve on evaluation teams which make on-site inspections of each campus.

Board criteria for certification require institutions to offer quality curricula under the supervision of competent faculty and administrators. The rules also include standards relating to adequate facilities, record-keeping, financial stability, and publication of catalogs or brochures appropriately describing institutional objectives and procedures. Institutions meeting those standards are approved for a certification period of two years.

Review of Policy Paper on Academic Freedom

The Coordinating Board in 1975 appointed an advisory committee to review the Board's policy paper on Academic Freedom, Tenure and Responsibility. The committee was asked to study the need to update the 1967 publication, in the light of recent court rulings regarding academic freedom and tenure and changing academic employment conditions.

The committee's report, recommending a number of changes in the policy statement, was presented to the Board in October. A public hearing was conducted in November so that college representatives could respond to those recommendations. Following the hearing, the Board requested an Attorney General's opinion to clarify whether the Board statement is advisory or mandatory.

Atty. Gen. John Hill ruled that the law requires the Board to develop and recommend minimum standards for academic freedom, tenure and responsibility. However, there is no legal "obligation upon any institution to adopt those standards," he said.

Final consideration of the revised document awaits a report from a Board ad hoc committee, appointed to bring its recommendations to the full Board.

Medical Education

The Coordinating Board continued to monitor the state's medical education resources and ways to insure its responsiveness to state needs.

The Board did give its final approval for a contract between Texas A&M University and the Veterans Administration, initiating funding for a

new Texas A&M medical education program to be conducted in conjunction with Baylor College of Medicine. The contract is the final step in negotiations which have been underway since 1973. The VA has awarded a seven-year, $17 million grant to support the cooperative program, designed to train needed physicians while improving medical care at VA hospitals.

The program will utilize Houston clinical facilities affiliated with Baylor College of Medicine. It also will use clinical facilities of VA hospitals in Temple, Waco and Marlin and facilities of Scott & White Clinic and Hospital in Temple. VA funding will provide partial support for faculty salaries and will be used to renovate VA facilities in the three cities.

Texas A&M in January received a notice of "reasonable assurance" that the program will meet accrediting standards of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). Receipt of provisional accreditation from LCME by Fall 1976 would enable Texas A&M to admit its first class of 32 students in January 1977.

The Board in 1973 designated Texas A&M as the state-supported university system to seek funding for the program, authorized by the VA Medical School Assistance and Health Manpower Training Act of 1972. Texas A&M is one of five institutions in the United States to be awarded a grant under the legislation.

Nursing Education

Following completion of its three-year special study and resulting statewide guidance in nursing education, the level of activity slowed during Fiscal 1976. There were no new nursing programs approved by the Board during the year.

In Fall 1975, the Commissioner appointed an Advisory Council on Continuing Education for Texas (Project ACCENT) to develop a series of recommendations on a plan for continuing education for nurses. This work is expected to continue into 1977. The appointment of such a study group had been recommended in the final report of the Nursing Project Council in 1975. The report was published as CB Study Paper 24: Toward Quality Health Care.

The nursing study also included recommendations for program curricula and faculty improvement. To assist in coordinating efforts toward reaching those goals, an interagency staff committee was organized. It is comprised of representatives of the Coordinating Board, Texas Education Agency, Board of Nurse Examiners, and the Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners. This committee has met on several occasions to identify nursing education priorities and to improve interagency exchange of data and information relative to nursing and nursing education. The members also sit as agency liaison members on Project ACCENT.

Community Service and Continuing Education

The Coordinating Board in Fiscal 1976 awarded grants totaling $393,500 to 12 Texas colleges and universities to support 16 community service and continuing education projects. The Board serves as state administrator of the federal funding, made available through the Community Service and Continuing Education (CSCE) Program, under Title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The state plan approved for Texas' participation in CSCE grants encourages institutions to undertake projects which will strengthen or

improve state and local governments. The colleges receiving grants and the government agencies being served will match the $393,500 in federal monies with $411,759 from non-federal sources. Title I grants must be matched at the rate of at least one state or other non-federal dollar for each two federal dollars.

Passage of the Education Amendments of 1974 established a requirement to expend all funds appropriated for the Higher Education Act by the end of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the funds were appropriated. Therefore, the schedule for receiving and processing proposals was moved forward. By August 18, 1975, the Board had received 79 proposals requesting $1,957,677 in federal funds for Fiscal 1976. In September, President Ford vetoed the appropriation bill which provided for Title I funding. Congress promptly over-rode the President's veto. In December, the President requested that Congress rescind the Title I appropriation. Finally, in March, 1976, the funds were released. This type of uncertainty adds significantly to the difficulty of developing and administering an effective Community Service and Continuing Education Program.

State Plan for Adult and Continuing Education

Progress on the implementation of the State Plan for Adult and Continuing Education continued.

Conferences during the year were devoted to discussions of proposed regulations for coordination of non-credit courses, for education needs of women, and continuing education for various professions.

The Coordinating Board in January adopted a formula for support of approved Community Service and Continuing Education (CSCE) programs at public senior colleges and universities. The formula was prepared for use by the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board in making appropriations recommendations to the Legislature. It is designed to enable each institution desiring to participate in CSCE activities to hire or designate at least one full-time professional who would be responsible for developing programs to meet the needs of adults.

Community College Programs for Elderly Texans

The Elderly Texans Program, funded through an interagency contract with the Governor's Committee on Aging, was terminated at the end of Fiscal 1976 for lack of additional federal funds.

The Coordinating Board in 1974 administered some $281,000 in federal grants to support 18 projects at public community colleges. The projects were designed to improve physical, mental and economic well-being of elderly citizens. The colleges matched the funding with $130,000 in non-federal monies.

An evaluation of the program deemed it to be very successful. Despite termination of federal funding, 16 of the projects initiated with the grants continued operation because of support by the elderly participants.

Texas Statewide Corrections Intern Program

At the request of the Criminal Justice Division, Office of the Governor, the Board submitted a proposal and received funding to develop

and administer a statewide program for interns in the field of corrections education. The Board approved grants to 13 universities to pay the stipends of 116 interns and certain miscellaneous costs incurred by the institutions. Plans call for the continuation of the program for approximately three years.

Community Junior College Development

Texas gained one new public community junior college in 1975-76 with the opening of a third institution -- Northwest Campus -- by Tarrant County Junior College District. The state's 47 existing community college districts now operate on 54 campuses.

Several citizen groups in areas not presently served by existing community junior colleges considered establishing junior college districts during the year. However, none of these efforts resulted in the presentation of a petition to the Coordinating Board to authorize the creation of a new community college.

Community College Enrollment Growth

Enrollment at Texas public community colleges rose from 214,125 in Fall 1974 to 278,931 in Fall 1975, reflecting an impressive one-year increase of 30 percent. As a result, community college enrollment constituted nearly one-half, some 48 percent, of the enrollment in all Texas public institutions in 1975-76.

The continued, phenomenal growth of Texas community colleges has been attributed in part to disproportionate increases in the numbers of women and older-than-average students at the two-year public colleges.

Another explanation for the rapid enrollment gains is seen in the steady increase in the numbers of students enrolled in technical-vocational courses. While more students are still opting for university-parallel programs, the growth rate of technical-vocational programs and students enrolling in such courses has outpaced the rate of increase in academic programs for three successive years.

Semester Credit Hour Production

In Fall 1975 community junior colleges produced 1,529,719 semester credit hours in academic, university-parallel courses, representing a growth over Fall 1974 of more than 21 percent. An even larger gain of 39 percent was recorded in technical-vocational contact hours. In 1975 community colleges produced 19,182,786 contact hours in technical-vocational programs, compared to 13,830,314 contact hours in 1974.

State funding, which provides partial support for community colleges, increased 18 percent in 1975-76 over the preceding year.

Out-of-District Course Offerings

Growth in community college out-of-district course offerings abated somewhat in 1975-76. In May 1976 the Coordinating Board approved requests from 32 community colleges to offer courses and programs at 24 new out-of-district locations during 1976-77. In addition, the Board approved requests from 19 colleges to discontinue out-of-district operations at 34 previously approved locations. The Board in 1975 had approved requests from 33 institutions to offer courses at 126 new out-of-district locations.

In accordance with new rules for off-campus instruction adopted by the Board in April 1976, out-of-district course proposals of community colleges are now considered simultaneously with lower division (freshman-sophomore) proposals of senior institutions. Regional councils made up of representatives from junior and senior institutions review all the proposals.

Core Curriculum

The Coordinating Board in October 1975 approved a core curriculum for the agricultural sciences. Its adoption brought to six the number of basic curriculum cores endorsed by the Board to promote free transfer of credit among Texas public junior and senior colleges and universities.

A special Board advisory committee of junior and senior college representatives has been working with the Board staff since 1974 in the study of problems relating to the transfer of credit in the field of agriculture. The Commission on Academic Affairs of the Association of Texas Colleges and Universities endorsed the proposed basic core before it was approved by the Board.

The agricultural sciences core includes lower division courses in eight subject areas, for a total of 51 to 55 semester credit hours, which will be transferable among all Texas public institutions.

Core curricula previously adopted by the Board are in liberal arts, business administration, engineering, law enforcement and art.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Maintenance of quality higher education requires continuous planning for the financial needs of Texas public colleges and universities. The Coordinating Board plays an important role in such planning. Through its Division of Financial Planning, the Board designates formulas for determining adequate and equitable funding for operation of the state's higher education system. The Board also prescribes a uniform system of financial reporting for public institutions of higher education and conducts studies pertaining to educational costs and procedures. It also administers trusteed funds for the education of Texas students at private medical and dental schools and for other educational programs.

State funding for higher education during the 1975-77 biennium climbed to record levels. To meet increased costs resulting from continued enrollment growth and inflation, the 64th Legislature appropriated some $2.3 billion for Texas higher education agencies and institutions during Fiscal Years 1976 and 1977.

State Officials Call for Fiscal Restraints

Gov. Dolph Briscoe in March called on all state agency and institutional heads to keep budget requests for the 1977-79 biennium at current levels or "justify fully" all increases sought. Briscoe asked for a major commitment to economy and accountability. Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and House Speaker Bill Clayton expressed support for the Governor's economy stance.

The Texas Formula System

The majority of funding for Texas colleges and universities is based upon formulas designed to assure equity. The Coordinating Board is directed by statute to designate formulas by March 1 of each even-numbered year. The Board recommends the formulas to the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board for their use in making appropriation recommendations to the Legislature. Colleges and universities also use the formulas to prepare budget requests.

The formulas undergo careful study and needed revision every two years. The Coordinating Board staff, working with advisory committees of junior and senior college representatives and lay citizens, assesses the adequacy of the formulas to financial needs of the institutions.

Formulas Recommended for 1977-79

In February 1976, the Coordinating Board designated formulas for Fiscal Years 1978 and 1979. The formulas for senior colleges and universities cover 13 areas of cost, comprising approximately 85 percent of the educational and general appropriations to the institutions. The Board also approved a formula to provide state support of general academic programs at public community junior colleges. Where applicable, the designated formulas include an annual 7.6 percent inflation factor over the Fiscal 1977 level of funding.

Formulas in two new areas -- Physical Plant General Services and Community Services and Continuing Education -- were adopted. Also, certain formulas are modified to accommodate low enrollment general

academic institutions -- primarily, the new upper-level colleges and universities. The 64th Legislature had asked the Board to recommend formula rates responsive to the financial needs of these institutions.

The public junior college formula adopted for 1977-79 is based on the 1975 median cost per contact hour for general academic program areas. The formula again includes a recommendation for a lump-sum contingency appropriation for enrollment increases, determined over a 12-month base period, for each year of the biennium.

The senior college and university formulas for 1978 and 1979 are basically extensions of Board-recommended rates and appropriated rates for the current biennium. Modifications for low enrollment institutions are incorporated in the formula areas of General Administration and Student Services, Faculty Salaries, Departmental Operating Expenses and Library.

Formula rates as appropriated by the Legislature for 1977 were used as a base for the General Administration and Student Services formula. In addition to the inflation factor for each year, a two percent improvement factor was applied to the 1977 rates to offset rapidly increasing costs for operation of student services and the requirements of federal and state reports.

The formula for General Institutional Expense is the same as approved by the Board for the 1975-77 biennium with rates adjusted for inflation. The 64th Legislature used rates recommended by the Board in current appropriations for this formula area.

The Faculty Salaries formula is based on rates appropriated in 197. escalated by the 7.6 percent inflation factor for each year of the biennium.

The rate is expected to maintain Texas faculty salaries at a level comparable to the national average. Rates are inserted for doctoral level social service and master's level technology. Rates for law and pharmacy are adjusted to accommodate changes in programs related to clinical pharmacy and clinical law.

The Departmental Operating Expense formula includes, for the first time, rates for programs in undergraduate social service, master's level technology and doctoral level social service. The rates for law and doctoral pharmacy are increased.

Basically unchanged from the current biennium are formulas for Instructional Administration, Organized Research, Custodial Services, Grounds Maintenance and Faculty and Staff Group Insurance. The Building Maintenance Formula is updated with the most recent figures recommended for building maintenance based on age and type of construction.

The Library formula is modified to generate funding ranging from a minimum of $225,000 to a maximum of $450,000 for library acquisitions and operation at institutions with enrollments of less than 50,000 semester credit hours.

The new formula for Physical Plant General Services was developed to provide funds for salaries, supplies, travel, equipment and other expenses in physical plant administration planning and services.

A formula for Community Service and Continuing Education provides limited funding to institutions for the operation of such programs approved by the Coordinating Board. Previously, no state funding formula had been recommended for such programs.

Higher Education Appropriations for 1975-77 Biennium

Appropriations totaling $2,278.2 million from all funds to support all agencies of Texas higher education in the 1975-77 biennium represented an increase of 51.3 percent, or $772.4 million, over appropriations for the preceding biennium.

The combined total of General Revenue and Federal Revenue Sharing funds appropriated was $1,943.0 million, an increase of $710.6 million or 57.7 percent over the comparable total for the previous biennium. A summary of increases in biennial appropriations for all funds by various classifications of institutions and agencies of higher education is shown in the following table:

	Biennium		Increase	
	1973-75	1975-77	Amount	Percent
Public Senior Colleges	$ 795,303,078	$1,154,323,585	$359,020,507	45.1%
Public Junior Colleges	198,722,590	313,806,863	115,084,273	57.9
Health Related Agencies	265,207,263	496,600,491	231,393,228	87.2
All Other	246,499,307	313,442,817	66,943,510	27.2
TOTAL	$1,505,732,238	$2,278,173,756	$772,441,518	51.3%

Public Senior Colleges and Universities

Appropriations for public senior colleges and universities for the 1975-77 biennium totaled $1,154.3 million, an increase of $359.0 million or 45.1 percent over the 1973-75 biennium. Substantial increases were included in appropriations for the Coordinating Board recommended formula items, with funds provided for enrollment gains as well as increases in formula rates. All formulas recommended by the Coordinating Board were

used by the Legislature in determining appropriated amounts, although in some areas the rates are somewhat different.

Increases in formula rates for certain elements of cost reflected increases over the appropriated rates for Fiscal 1975 adjusted to fold in or include the applicable Fiscal 1975 line-item non-faculty salary appropriations for each institution. Salary increase funds for the 1975-77 biennium are included in the appropriations for each element of cost.

In the area of resident instruction, Faculty Salary appropriated rates for Fiscal 1976 were increased approximately 14.9 percent, with an additional increase of 6.8 percent for Fiscal 1977. The rates for Departmental Operating Expense were increased 18 percent for Fiscal 1976 and 10 percent for Fiscal 1977.

The General Administration and Student Services appropriated rates per headcount enrollment were increased 18 percent for Fiscal 1976 and 12 percent for Fiscal 1977.

For both Organized Research and Instructional Administration, the Coordinating Board recommended formula was used. Each institution received 50 percent of the formula produced amount for Organized Research and the full formula produced amount for Instructional Administration.

Library appropriated rates were increased 20 percent for Fiscal 1976 and 12 percent for Fiscal 1977, with a separate rate for law adopted for the first time.

Under the area of Physical Plant Operation and Maintenance, Coordinating Board formula produced amounts were appropriated for both

Building Maintenance and Grounds Maintenance. For Custodial Services, the Coordinating Board recommended formula was used, computed at 38.35¢ per square foot for Fiscal 1976 and 42.19¢ per square foot for Fiscal 1977, to provide increases in appropriated rates of 18 percent and 10 percent, respectively.

Used for the first time in the appropriations process were Board recommended formulas in the areas of General Institutional Expense, Instructional Administration and Grounds Maintenance.

Public Community Junior Colleges

Public community junior colleges were appropriated $313.8 million for Fiscal Years 1976 and 1977, an increase of $115.1 million or 57.9 percent over the preceding biennium. Of the total, $179.7 million was appropriated to support general academic courses, an increase of $58.9 million over the 1973-75 biennium; while $134.1 million was appropriated for vocational-technical programs, reflecting an increase of $56.2 million. Contingency funds were included to finance community junior college enrollment increases during each year of the 1975-77 biennium.

Health-Related Units

The largest rate of increase in higher education appropriations -- 87.2 percent -- was for health-related institutions and agencies, which were appropriated a total of $496.6 million for the 1975-77 biennium, an increase of $231.4 million over the preceding biennium. Included were appropriations of $21 million for the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, which the 64th Legislature established as a state institution

under the governance of the Board of Regents of North Texas State University. Previous state support for the institution had come from funds appropriated to the Coordinating Board to contract with the institution for the education of resident students.

Trusteed Funds to Coordinating Board

Appropriations also were increased to fund contracts with independent institutions for the education of Texas resident medical and dental students. For the 1975-77 biennium, the Coordinating Board, which administers the contracts, was appropriated a total of $19.5 million for contracting with Baylor College of Medicine and $12.8 million for contracts with Baylor College of Dentistry.

The Coordinating Board in July 1976 approved contracts with Baylor College of Medicine and Baylor College of Dentistry for the education of Texas resident medical and dental students in 1976-77.

The contract of $9.8 million with Baylor College of Medicine called for the education of an estimated 450 students. For the education of an estimated 445 students at Baylor College of Dentistry, the Board approved a contract of $6.4 million.

'Fifth Pathway Contracts with Medical Schools

Included for the first time was a biennial appropriation for the Fifth Pathway Program, enacted by the 64th Legislature to assist students of foreign medical schools in obtaining licensure to practice medicine in Texas. The Coordinating Board is to contract with institutions to provide the designated services.

The Legislature appropriated $750,000 ($25,000 per student) for each year of the 1975-77 biennium to provide a year of supervised clinical training for qualified Texas students who have attended foreign medical schools. Six Texas medical schools have indicated plans to participate in the program.

Only two students entered Texas medical schools through the Fifth Pathway Program in Fiscal 1976. Unused trusteed funds reverted to the State Treasury. Shortage of lead time for students to prepare for necessary examinations and for institutions to make program arrangements were cited. Projections were for as many as 30 students per year as the program proceeded.

The Board also received an appropriation of $92,000 for the biennium to contract with the Texas System of Natural Laboratories, Inc. for administrative services in providing ecology laboratories and facilities for the state's general academic institutions. The $46,000 annual level of funding was the same as for the preceding biennium.

Tuition Equalization Grants

In addition, the Coordinating Board was appropriated $16.5 million for the biennium to fund the Tuition Equalization Grants Program, which provides tuition grants to qualified students attending accredited independent colleges and universities in Texas. The appropriation was a $4 million increase over funds provided for the 1973-75 biennium.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fee charges for resident students at Texas public colleges are among the lowest in the United States. In 1975-76 they ranged

from a low of $148 to a high of $335 at the state's public senior institutions.

Prior to Fiscal 1976, the statutory required fee structure consisted of (1) tuition fees established by the Legislature; (2) student services fees with a statutory maximum of $30 per semester; and (3) building use fees, which were established by the governing board of each institution.

The 64th Legislature added a fourth fee area, enacting legislation which authorized governing boards of senior institutions to levy medical service fees not to exceed $15 for each regular semester or 12-week summer session or $7.50 for each six-week summer term.

The Legislature in 1975 also set a $6 per semester hour maximum on building use fees at public senior institutions. Building use fees exceeding that maximum were frozen at their existing level.

Tuition for foreign students was statutorily increased in 1975 from $14 to $40 per semester credit hour, the same rate paid by out-of-state students. The Coordinating Board was authorized to adopt policies providing for lower fees for foreign students in financial need and for those from countries charging reciprocal rates.

Other legislation enacted in 1975 authorized reciprocal tuition agreements for certain students from bordering states at Texas institutions in counties adjacent to those states.

Faculty Salaries

Faculty salary averages in Texas public colleges increased in the 1975-76 academic year over averages recorded for 1974-75, and for the first time since 1972-73 those salary increases kept pace with inflation.

Budgeted faculty salaries at Texas public senior colleges for 1975-76 averaged $15,618, an increase of 11.6 percent over the $13,998 average recorded in 1974-75. The increase was 2.5 percent above the 1975 inflation rate of 9.1 percent, assessed by federal government statistics.

At Texas public community colleges, average faculty salaries for 1975-76 increased 11.6 percent over the previous year, climbing from $12,138 to $13,546 -- an increase which was 2.5 percent above the cost of living rise in 1975.

The following tables show the Texas average faculty salaries for nine-month academic years since 1970-71, percentages of increase during the six-year span, and the average calendar year cost of living inflation rates measured by the Consumer Price Index as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

Average Budgeted Faculty Salaries, All Ranks
Texas Public Senior Colleges and Universities
1970-71 through 1975-76

Nine Month Period	Texas Average*	Annual% Salary Increase	Average Annual% Cost of Living Increase**
1975-76	$15,618	11.6%	9.1% (1975)
1974-75	13,998	6.1	11.0 (1974)
1973-74	13,187	4.5	6.2 (1973)
1972-73	12,623	4.0	3.3 (1972)
1971-72	12,141	2.3	4.3 (1971)
1970-71	11,865	4.7	5.9 (1970)

*Coordinating Board salary survey based on average budgeted salaries paid to full-time and part-time instructional personnel in public senior colleges and universities and full-time faculty personnel in general academic courses only in public community junior colleges for nine months of service.

**Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Average Budgeted Salaries
Texas Public Community Junior Colleges
1970-71 through 1975-76

Nine Month Period	Texas Average*	Annual% Salary Increase	Average Annual% Cost of Living Increase**
1975-76	$13,546	11.6%	9.1% (1975)
1974-75	12,138	7.8	11.0 (1974)
1973-74	11,259	4.7	6.2 (1973)
1972-73	10,754	5.3	3.3 (1972)
1971-72	10,209	6.2	4.3 (1971)
1970-71	9,611	N/A	5.9 (1970)

*Coordinating Board salary survey based on average budgeted salaries paid to full-time and part-time instructional personnel in public senior colleges and universities and full-time faculty personnel in general academic courses only in public community junior colleges for nine months of service.
**Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

The number of full-time equivalent faculty members employed in Texas senior colleges and universities in 1975-76 was 13,415 -- an increase of 9.8 percent over the 12,220 employed in 1974-75. Community colleges employed 3,314 full-time academic faculty members in 1975-76 -- an increase of 5.2 percent over the 3,150 employed the previous year.

Staff Personnel Administration

The Coordinating Board in April 1976 received a grant of $64,000 through the federal Intergovernmental Personnel Act to continue work on a project designed to improve personnel administration for higher education staff employees.

Goal of the 10-month project is to assist institutions in implementing recommendations embodied in the Board's Non-Faculty Personnel Study, completed in 1975.

A primary objective of the project is to develop recommendations for a coordinated higher education personnel system. The project is addressing areas of responsibility for such a system. It is modifying job titles and descriptions for use in institutional staff personnel reports. Guidelines for employer-employee relations, including models for employment practices and grievance procedures, are being developed. Other objectives include development of standard terms to describe employee categories and types of appointments, guidelines for position classification and compensation plans, and eligibility criteria for all non-salary benefits.

Institutional representatives, working through committees and task groups, are assisting the Board's staff on the project.

Organized Research Funds

Organized research funds available to all Texas public senior institutions totaled $146.4 million in Fiscal 1975, an increase of 10.99 percent over the all-time high of $131.9 million made available to general academic and health-related institutions in Fiscal 1974.

Major source of the funding was the federal government which supplied more than one-half of the funds available to the general academic institutions, as well as to the medically-related institutions. State appropriations accounted for some 23 percent of the total available funding.

Sources of those funds in Fiscal 1975 were as follows:

Source of Funds	Amount	Percent of Total
Public		
State Appropriated	$ 34,240,420	23.39
Institutionally Controlled	384,330	.27
Federal Government	84,879,718	57.99
Private		
Profit	5,569,279	3.80
Non-Profit	14,043,545	9.60
Other	7,240,010	4.95
TOTAL	$146,357,302	

Public academic senior institutions received $99.8 million, an increase of almost 18 percent above the previous year. The bulk of that went to Texas A&M University, recipient of $39.3 million, and The University of Texas at Austin, which received $36.8 million.

Public medical, dental and allied health schools received a total of $46.6 million, an increase of nearly 22 percent over Fiscal 1974. Of that total, The University of Texas System Cancer Center at Houston received $18.55 million, some 40 percent of the year's research funding for health science institutions.

ADMINISTRATION

The Division of Administration provides support services for Coordinating Board programs. It also coordinates the efforts of all staff divisions in the development, implementation and use of the comprehensive Management Information System (MIS). Service areas are: personnel administration, budgeting, accounting, purchasing and supply, print shop, mail services, electronic data processing, and educational data services.

Significant progress was made this year toward achievement of the goal of a comprehensive Management Information System. Such a system will provide profile information regarding each college and university and will furnish data upon which statewide planning for programs and resources can be based.

The Division is organized into three sections of operations: Office Administration, Data Processing, and the Educational Data Center.

Office Administration

The Coordinating Board in December 1975 adopted General Rules of Practice and Procedure, as prescribed by Senate Bill 41, the Administrative Procedures and Texas Register Act. The rules provide for the institution, conduct, and determination of rulemaking and hearings of the Board. All existing rules of the Board were recodified and filed with the Secretary of State's office on Jan. 1, 1976, in accordance with rules of the Secretary of State promulgated under authority of Senate Bill 41.

Data Processing

To accommodate data needs for higher education planning and administration of student loan and grant programs, a new Honeywell Series 6000 level 66 computer was installed this year. The new system will accommodate the significant expansion of the Board's statewide data base on higher education.

At the close of the year, conversion to the new system from the former IBM system was almost complete. The conversion process included staff retraining, new programs, and parallel runs to compare accuracy of processing time and ease of data handling.

Improved computer services for the Board programs and activities this year include:

Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program

Video display programs are now available which permit immediate access to individual borrower records, loan and payment records, cross-reference tables, payment schedules, address records, and payoff balance displays. This capability increases the Board's effectiveness in its student loan collection efforts. Another major activity related to the loan program was fulfillment of U.S. Department of HEW audit requirements. Almost 90,000 student accounts are being audited with appropriate notification to borrowers of accuracy or needed modifications.

Texas Public Educational-State Student Incentive Grant Program

The TPE-SSIG program was authorized in 1975 by the 64th Legislature. Automation procedures for the program were fully implemented this year. The program involves transfer of a portion of student tuition fees from

public colleges and universities to the Coordinating Board to be matched by federal funds.

Tuition Equalization Grants-State Student Incentive Grant Program

New federal requirements necessitated a program change in the TEG-SSIG program this year. The revision required separation of fund allocations into first-time grant awards and renewal grant awards. The new procedures also enhance descriptive data of participants. Reports are now available on family income levels, ethnic origin, sex, and county of residence of all student TEG recipients.

Management Information System

The Coordinating Board is directed by statute to prescribe a uniform reporting system for colleges and universities. This system, designed with the assistance of representatives from Texas colleges, yields data essential to decision-making about statewide higher education. During the past several years, the Board has been working with the institutions in the design of a new, fully automated reporting system. Implementation of that system was achieved in Fiscal 1976, fully replacing the former manual reporting system. Automation of its reporting system enables the Coordinating Board to maintain far more comprehensive data than was possible under the former manual reporting system. It expands significantly the scope of statewide data in regard to students, faculty, programs, facilities and finance. In its first few months, the Data Processing Division already has been able to provide reports on cost studies, facilities utilization, and an analysis of on- and off-campus activities.

Higher Education Facilities Inventory

Improvements have been made in the higher education facilities inventory system to provide continuous, updated information. The continuous update process is supplemented with monthly summary reports to assure timely, accurate information.

Educational Data Center

The Educational Data Center serves as the Coordinating Board's central office for the collection of comprehensive data on Texas higher education. These data are invaluable in measuring the progress of Texas postsecondary education and projecting future educational needs of the state.

The Center is responsible for supplying the myriad of data items needed by the various divisions of the Coordinating Board to be used as tools for educational decision-making. Data also are made available to other state and national agencies upon request.

The Educational Data Center has been involved in numerous studies, involving such matters as transfer of credit, common course numbering, formula study committees and the State Level Information Base project being conducted by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems at WICHE.

STUDENT SERVICES

The State of Texas provides a number of financial assistance programs for needy students in postsecondary institutions. The Coordinating Board, through its Division of Student Services, administers the statewide programs. Among them are the Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program, the Tuition Equalization Grants (TEG) Program, and the Texas Public Educational Grants (TPEG) Program. The TPEG is one of two new student grant programs authorized by the 64th Legislature in 1975. The Board also administers matching grants from the federal State Student Incentive Grants (SSIG) Program with funding available through TPEG and TEG grants.

In fulfilling other Board responsibilities, the Student Services Division processes information regarding Texas residency requirements for students and assists institutions in enrolling veterans of military services through the Veterans' Outreach Program.

College Student Loan Program

The Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program is the largest state sponsored loan program in the nation. As a result of its successful operation, other states have used the Hinson-Hazlewood program as a prototype to develop loan programs for needy students.

During Fiscal 1976, some 27,500 students borrowed $20,677,163 through the Hinson-Hazlewood program. The Board made more than 43,000 separate disbursements, averaging $474. Many students receive three or four disbursements, since loans are made for each semester or summer session enrollment period.

Since inception of the program in Fall 1966, a total of $172,277,179 has been loaned to 119,408 students. The average amount borrowed per student is $1,443.

Bond Sales

The Coordinating Board in February 1976 sold $18 million State of Texas College Student Loan Bonds to fund the Hinson-Hazlewood program during the 1976-77 academic year. Average interest rate on the bond sale was 5.40 percent. In July, the Board established an interest rate of 6.9 percent on Hinson-Hazlewood loans to be made during Fiscal 1977.

As of August 31, 1976, the Board had sold a total of $189.5 million in State of Texas College Student Loan Bonds and retired $19,030,000 of principal, leaving net bonds payable of $170,470,000. Total bonds constitutionally authorized for sale amount to $285 million.

Participation in Federal Insured Loan Program

The Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program qualified as a lender in the Federal Insured Student Loan Program in August 1971. Since that time, essentially all Hinson-Hazlewood loans have been fully insured by the U.S. Office of Education.

The federal government has provided death and disability coverage on Hinson-Hazlewood loans since late 1968. With the addition of insurance against default, the federal Office of Insured Loans now purchases at face value, plus up to 120 days of interest charges, borrower's insured notes which are more than 120 days past due. Before a default claim will be honored, the lender must provide evidence of "due diligence" in attempts to collect from the borrower. Collection efforts include numerous written

and telephone contacts with each borrower prior to filing a default claim. Students employed through the federally funded College Work-Study Program make up most of the evening and weekend crews who call borrowers whose payments are past due.

Loans made prior to August 1971, and which are not federally insured, are collected through the same procedures as those used for insured loans, except that the Attorney General of Texas is requested to file suit against such borrowers when as many as six payments are past due.

In Spring 1976 the Board asked the Attorney General's office to accelerate the filing of suits against former students who have defaulted Hinson-Hazlewood loans. The Board's staff, which handles clerical work on suit filing, processed some 2,200 additional loan default accounts and submitted them for filing by Aug. 31. Court costs and citation fees are paid by the Hinson-Hazlewood Program.

Hinson-Hazlewood regulations were amended in November 1975 to comply with House Bill 570, which authorizes cancellation of Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loans for doctors of medicine and psychology who work for certain social services state agencies. Before taking the action, the Board had requested and received an Attorney General's ruling, affirming that implementation of the law would not impair the bond obligations of the program.

Tuition Equalization Grants Program

Some 14,800 needy students attending 43 independent Texas colleges and universities received $7.5 million through the Tuition Equalization

Grants Program (TEG) during 1975-76. Individual grants in Fiscal 1976 averaged slightly more than $506, with $600 being the maximum received by any one student.

The TEG Program began operation in Fall 1971, when $1 million was distributed to 2,500 needy freshman students enrolled in accredited private institutions. With additional classifications of students becoming eligible to participate in the program during successive years, all needy Texas resident students -- including those at the graduate level -- were eligible to apply for TEG grants by 1974-75. Appropriations for the program have increased accordingly. A total of $9 million has been budgeted for use in 1977.

Rules and regulations adopted by the Coordinating Board for administration of the Tuition Equalization Grants Program were developed in consultation with the Attorney General's office. The regulations are designed so that the grants will not be used to benefit sects, religious societies or theological or religious seminaries. At the same time, regulations governing the program avoid "excessive entanglements" in the internal affairs of private institutions. Approved institutions also are required to certify that employees are not required to acknowledge belief in or to adhere to any particular religious doctrine.

Texas Public Educational Grants Program

Through passage of the Student Financial Assistance Act of 1975, the 64th Legislature authorized two new grant programs, one of which is the Texas Public Educational Grants Program (TPEG).

Funds for the grants are generated at each institution by setting aside 25¢ out of each $4 per semester hour tuition charge to residents of Texas and $1.50 out of each $40 per semester hour charge to nonresidents. Grants are awarded on the basis of financial need. Not more than 10 percent of awards may be made to nonresidents, and foreign students are ineligible for awards.

In addition to making awards directly to students, each institution is authorized to transfer any or all of the funds set aside for Texas Public Educational Grants to the Coordinating Board to be used for matching federal or other grant funds for awarding to students attending that institution. In 1975-76, 54 institutions transferred a total of $469,000 to the Coordinating Board to match federal State Student Incentive Grant (SSIG) funds.

TPEG funds matched with SSIG monies are administered by the Coordinating Board through the Texas Public Educational-State Student Incentive Grants Program (TPE-SSIG). Criteria for these grants are generally the same as those for the TPEG Program with certain additional requirements for the SSIG Program. In Fiscal 1976, 2,600 students enrolled in public institutions benefited through the TPE-SSIG Program, receiving an average award of $300.

Texas Assistance Grants Program

The second grant program authorized by the Student Financial Assistance Act of 1975 (HB 688) is the Texas Assistance Grants Program. Goal of the Act is to "supply grants of money enabling students to attend postseconda·y educational institutions, public or private, of their choice in

Texas." The Coordinating Board is to award grants to eligible students enrolled in approved institutions. Grants may not exceed $1,000 per student in a fiscal year, nor the amount of financial need demonstrated by the student.

Funds for the implementation of this program were not included in state appropriations for the 1975-77 biennium. When state funds are appropriated for them, grants through this program also will qualify as matching monies for federal funds through the SSIG program.

State Student Incentive Grant Program

The State Student Incentive Grant (SSIG) Program was authorized in the federal Higher Education Amendments of 1972. Funding was appropriated for the first time for implementation in Fiscal 1975.

The Tuition Equalization Grants Program was the only then-authorized state program of grants to needy students that could qualify as matching grants for the SSIG funds.

Accordingly, the Board approved temporary regulations to use the total $1,140,511 available in 1974-75 from the SSIG program for matching with Tuition Equalization Grants.

In 1975-76, as a result of the establishment of the Texas Public Educational Grants Program, public schools were authorized to transfer a portion of their tuition revenue scholarship funds to the Coordinating Board for use in matching federal monies. Therefore, students attending both public and private institutions in Texas were eligible to receive SSIG grants in Fiscal 1976.

During the year, $1,075,742 in SSIG funds were allocated to Texas. Some 5,050 students in the public and private sector received SSIG awards. The average award was $213.

Residency Determination for Tuition Purposes

Sect. 61.059(d) of the Texas Education Code assigns responsibility to the Coordinating Board for the development of tuition policies for public institutions of higher education. To assist in fulfilling this duty, the Coordinating Board appointed a special study committee composed of persons responsible for determination of student residence status at several state supported institutions. The committee reviewed the relevant statutes and suggested several revisions.

As a result, in October 1975 the Coordinating Board published an updated residency brochure, entitled Rules and Regulations for Determining Residence Status and for Determining Tuition Rates for Foreign Students.

The brochure includes information regarding Section 54.060 of the Texas Education Code, a new statute authorizing reciprocal arrangements with neighboring states, involving Texas public junior colleges and upper-level institutions in certain border counties. Regulations developed by the Coordinating Board for the uniform interpretation of the statute were approved by the Attorney General.

Another addition to the residency brochure is a section providing information on foreign student tuition rates, developed by the Board in compliance with HB 785 (64th Legislature). One portion of that law allows students to register at Texas public institutions at a rate lower than the

regular nonresident fee if U.S. citizens may register at public institutions in the student's home country at tuition rates of no more than $200 (U.S. currency) per semester.

The Board obtained data on tuition policies of public institutions in foreign countries from reliable publications and correspondence with embassies and ministries of education. As of June 1976, 78 countries had been certified as meeting the conditions for reciprocity. Students from those countries can qualify to pay lowered tuition rates at Texas public institutions. Tuition policies of 47 countries are still being investigated.

Other State Financial Aid Programs

In addition to the centrally-administered student financial aid programs, the State of Texas provides a variety of other financial aid programs for college students.

There are nine different statutory provisions which exempt several categories of students from payment of tuition and/or certain fees at public institutions. Students eligible for such exemptions include the highest ranking graduate of accredited Texas high schools, certain students from other nations in the American Hemisphere, blind and deaf students and certain veterans and their dependents. In Fiscal 1976, some 10,700 students were exempted from payment of approximately $900,000 in tuition and fees under these statutory provisions.

CAMPUS PLANNING AND PHYSICAL FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT

Reassessment of campus building needs and effective use of state resources were priority areas of Coordinating Board efforts during 1975-76 related to campus construction. A major focus was on development of procedures for implementing new Board responsibilities in this area.

The Coordinating Board assumed expanded statutory duties for reviewing construction requests from Texas public colleges and universities. Legislation enacted by the 64th Legislature mandated that prior Board approval was required for all major facilities projects except those with specific legislative approval. In developing and adopting criteria for evaluating needs, the Board utilized and built upon its facilities studies and data base.

Through its Division of Campus Planning and Physical Facilities Development, the Board maintains an up-to-date statewide facilities inventory. It annually revises estimates of the space needs of Texas colleges and universities. It publishes studies relevant to space planning and utilization. The division staff also assists the Governor's Office and the Legislative Budget Board in a biennial review and evaluation of budget requests from institutions for major facilities repair and rehabilitation, as well as for custodial services funds.

Other services of the division include administration of federal facility grants and comprehensive planning programs. The division also assists the Board's formula advisory committees in developing formula recommendations related to physical plant operations.

Approval of Construction Projects and Real Property Acquisition

The 64th Legislature, through passage of Senate Bill 706, significantly broadened the authority of the Coordinating Board in regard to construction, repair, and rehabilitation projects in public postsecondary institutions. Prior statutes had limited the Coordinating Board's approval authority to educational and general facilities. They further had exempted from requirement for Board approval all projects involving the use of constitutionally authorized funds.

Senate Bill 706 modified these provisions and added to law by requiring Board approval for construction of major facilities projects at public senior universities, regardless of proposed use or source of funding.

Exempted from Board approval were new construction and major repair and rehabilitation projects specifically approved by the Legislature. Also exempt were projects financed from the ad valorem tax receipts of public junior colleges.

With the assistance of a prestigious advisory committee, the Board established guidelines for facilities construction. Those guidelines now serve as criteria for Board approval of major new construction and repair and rehabilitation projects. They are:

-- Conformity with role and scope of the institution.

-- Availability of a comprehensive and current institutional campus master plan or an approved process for assuring that such a plan is in development and consideration of the proposed project based upon the master plan.

-- Evaluation of effective use of space in the proposed facility, assessment of current institutional space availability, effectiveness of utilization of existing space, and relative need for additional space;

-- Filing a "Certificate of Compliance" with the Board prior to final project approval to assure that each proposed project meets standards of accessibility for the handicapped in accordance with Chapter 324, Acts of the 61st Legislature, Regular Session, 1969, as amended.

Criteria relating to cost factors were not adopted, since the Attorney General ruled that such considerations were not included in Coordinating Board statutory authority. Following these criteria, the Board in 1975-76 approved 99 construction projects at 20 institutions, costing a total of $77.9 million.

Responding to its statutory mandate to endorse or delay acquisition of real property by institutions of higher education, the Board approved nine requests by seven institutions, adding approximately 135.5 acres to real estate holdings of Texas public senior institutions. Each project was evaluated to assure conformity with institutional role and scope and campus master plan.

Long Range Campus Master Planning

The Coordinating Board strengthened its procedures regarding requirements for long range campus master planning. Under new criteria, Coordinating Board approval for construction projects is to be contingent upon the availability of a campus master plan or an approved process for assuring that such a plan is in development.

In adopting the criteria, the Board recognized that long range plans for campus development are the result of a dynamic, continuous process. Institutions were urged, therefore, to subject their "master plans" to continuing review. Such review should assure responsiveness to changes in institutional role and scope and changing institutional and student needs.

To assist institutions in their planning efforts, division staff participated, as physical facilities and campus master planning resource persons, on the "role and scope" staff teams. These teams visited each public senior institution during October-November 1975 as part of the Board's restudy of role and scope of each institution.

Following the campus visits, division staff have prepared evaluations of campus master plan and physical facilities inventory status for the institutional role and scope statements.

Most institutions have some broad and general plan for development of facilities. However, the Board noted that many of those plans are lacking in the detail and comprehensiveness required for effective long range planning. The Board requested each institution to proceed with development or comprehensive revision of its long-range campus plan. Such plans are to (1) establish priority of construction needs; (2) relate construction plans to academic role and scope; (3) show existing site plan; and (4) describe proposed land use plan.

Major Repair and Rehabilitation Review

At the request of the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Budget Office, the staff assisted in reviewing the major repair and

rehabilitation budget requests of each of the state's public senior institutions. The division staff reviewed approximately 213 projects at 25 campuses and prepared a report to assist the Governor and Legislative Budget Board in formulating budget recommendations.

The staff report addressed questions related to priority of each project in relation to others on the same campus, comparative space utilization, and the five-year enrollment pattern of the institution.

Physical Facilities Inventory

The Coordinating Board maintains a physical facilities inventory containing space data for all academic institutions of higher education in Texas -- public and private, junior and senior.

The Coordinating Board this year intensified efforts to upgrade data quality and streamline data management activities in its inventory procedures and data base. The Board last year converted to a continuous, rather than annual, facilities reporting process. Efforts were begun in 1976 to print full institutional reports on an as-needed rather than an annual basis, to devise programs to identify all possible internal inaccuracies, and to make fuller use of facilities inventory data in utilization analyses. These efforts should result in greater insight into the demand for and uses of higher education space.

Higher Education General Information Survey (HEGIS)

The Coordinating Board staff provides facilities information for participating Texas institutions of higher education to the National Center for Educational Statistics in Washington, D. C. State information is necessary for national reports and analyses. Coordinating Board

staff members also participate in the field audit portion of the HEGIS activities which was completed in January, 1976.

Student Housing Survey - Fall, 1975

Nationwide studies show that the average U.S. college had fewer empty rooms in its residence halls this academic year than at any time during the past three years.

A Coordinating Board housing survey in Fall 1975 showed that ten of the state's public senior universities had institutional housing occupancy rates below 90 percent -- a rate generally accepted as the minimum level necessary for an institution to maintain a financially sound student housing operation. During the previous year, 13 Texas public senior institutions had occupancy rates below 90 percent.

Among the public senior institutions, the average occupancy rate increased from 89.3 percent in 1974 to 91.3 percent in 1975. Institutional occupancy rates ranged from a low of 55.7 percent at one university to a high of 100 percent at five universities.

Public junior colleges in the survey averaged an occupancy rate of 86.4 percent, up from 82.7 percent in 1974. Occupancy ranges varied from a low of 45.8 percent at one institution to a high of 100 percent in 11 colleges.

Occupancy averages in private institutions increased from 91.4 percent in 1974 to 93.8 percent in 1975. One private college had a rate of only 69.4 percent, but six institutions were fully occupied and had excess demand.

The study revealed a statewide occupancy rate of 91.9 percent in institutionally-owned student housing. However, not all institutions had reached the desired occupancy level of 90 percent. Several others had plans to build additional units to meet serious housing shortages.

Three public senior colleges indicated plans to convert certain of their housing units to other type facilities.

Facilities Inventory Workshops

Two facilities inventory workshops were conducted in May, 1976, one in Houston and one in Dallas. Approximately 70 persons from 38 institutions attended.

The annual workshops are designed to assist institutional facilities inventory representatives.

Topics included recent and proposed inventory developments, problems, procedures, and policy implications. The workshops offer opportunities to share ideas and contribute mutually to the refinement and improvement of the system.

Junior College Resource Development

The Division of Campus Planning and Physical Facilities Development provides assistance to the state's public junior colleges in their resource development efforts. The staff began and published for three and one-half years a monthly newsletter, the Resources Information Survey. It also has conducted an annual resource development workshop. Both of these activities were turned over to the Texas coordinator for the National Council for Resource Development (NCRD) in January, 1976. The division retains

membership in NCRD and will continue to assist Texas institutions whenever possible.

Federal Program Administration

Three federal programs involving planning and construction of campus facilities, purchase of teaching equipment and materials, and higher education planning are administered through the Coordinating Board. The Board's staff assists all Texas institutions, both public and private, in their planning and implementation of approved federal grant programs.

Instructional Equipment Grants Program

Both houses of Congress this year voted to override the President's veto of an appropriation bill for education. By this vote, Congress kept alive the Title VI-A equipment and materials program.

The Board in Fiscal 1976 approved a priority list which resulted in the award of some $431,865 to 32 Texas institutions. Purpose of the federal program, created by the Higher Education Act of 1965, is to improve the quality of undergraduate instruction by providing financial assistance on a matching basis to help colleges and universities acquire instructional equipment and materials.

Eligible institutions receive initial grants of $15,000 or 50 percent of the project, whichever is less. The funds are assigned to projects in the order of their priority until the state allocation is exhausted. The Board in 1975-76 received a total of 105 applications from 70 institutions for Title VI-A funds. The 32 institutions receiving grants represent approximately 27 percent of all Texas colleges and universities. The applications submitted requested federal funds in excess of $1.5 million.

Title VI-A State Plan Amendments

The Coordinating Board approved modifications in the State Plan, for administering the Title VI-A equipment grants program. The changes in the State Plan were designed to encourage institutional efforts to (1) improve use of television in instruction; (2) enroll veterans and low-income students; and (3) to make better use of classroom space. Certain administrative changes also were adopted.

Construction Grants Program

For the past two years, Congress has appropriated no funds for undergraduate academic facilities construction grants, under provisions of Title VII-A (Higher Education Act of 1972). Texas institutions had received, over the previous nine years, more than $95 million in matching federal grants for academic facilities construction.

During Fiscal 1976, some 18 projects funded through the program were still under construction at Texas institutions. In addition, four other approved projects were not yet started. The combined total of projects under construction and projects approved but not yet started represents a development cost of over $113 million and federal grants in excess of $6 million.

Title X, Public Works and Economic Development Act

Four Texas community colleges were among six in the nation to receive Title X awards early in Fiscal 1976. The four funded were Grayson County College, $332,500; Laredo Junior College, $258,950; Weatherford College, $75,000; and Texas Southmost College, $225,000. The Texas institutions were eligible for the grants because of their location in counties with unusually high unemployment rates.

The Board's facilities division assisted eight colleges and universities in submitting applications requesting some $1.6 million in special federal grants to rehabilitate and remodel academic buildings. The funding was made available from Title X Public Works and Economic Development appropriations to the U.S. Department of Commerce to provide jobs for the unemployed.

Also cooperating with the Texas institutions in their submission of applications were the Governor's Office of State-Federal Relations and the regional U.S. Office of Education.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE COORDINATING BOARD

The Coordinating Board conducts research on issues affecting Texas higher education. The studies focus primarily on matters relevant to the Board's responsibilities for program development, financial planning, student financial aid and campus planning. The Board publishes reports on its research to assist leaders in education and government in making informed decisions. The Board and its staff also work cooperatively with agencies in other states in regard to educational issues of mutual concern.

Research and Publications

To inform Texas colleges and universities about Coordinating Board activities and assist institutions in keeping abreast of other news affecting higher education, the Board publishes a monthly newsletter, CB Report. The publication also is distributed to officials in the Executive and Legislative branches of the state government and to higher education officials in other states.

Detailed information regarding Board meetings and policies is prepared and distributed to the news media. The Board also develops reports on higher education in response to special requests from state government leaders.

In addition to publishing an Annual Report and Statistical Supplement, the Board in Fiscal 1976 updated several Coordinating Board publications. Changes in higher education statutes enacted by the 64th Legislature were incorporated into new editions of Rules and Regulations for Determining Residence Status and for Determining Tuition Rates for Foreign Students and Financial Aid for Texas Students.

A new list of degree programs available at Texas institutions of higher education was compiled and published in the May 1976 edition of Academic Degree Programs Inventory: Public and Private Senior Colleges and Universities of Texas. CB, The Coordinating Board, a brochure which explains Board functions, also was updated to include new responsibilities delegated by the Legislature in 1975.

Participation in the Southern Regional Education Compact

Serving as liaison for the State of Texas, the Coordinating Board participates in projects developed by the Southern Regional Education Compact to improve mental health and education opportunities in the South.

The Board in 1976 administered trusteed funds of $12,000 to support SREB mental health programs. The projects were designed to recruit additional qualified mental health workers for the South and to encourage research activities and the interchange of knowledge about mental health among Southern states.

The Board also served as trustee for $12,000 in legislative appropriations for the Institute for Higher Educational Opportunity in the South. The Institute's primary concern is the status of predominantly black colleges in the South. It assists black institutions in defining special roles and fulfilling specific goals.

Interagency Cooperation

The Coordinating Board works closely with a number of other state agencies to ensure effective planning for higher education. Among these are the Legislative Budget Board, Texas Education Agency, State Board of Vocational Education, Governor's Office of Planning Coordination,

Governor's Commission on Services for Children and Youth, Governor's Committee on Aging, and the State Board of Examiners for Teacher Education.

In addition, the Board and its staff hold membership on numerous interagency councils. Coordination of services to meet the needs of all citizens requires cooperative efforts, particularly in the areas of health, vocational-technical, and adult and continuing education.